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<<FirstName>> <<LastName>>
<<Address1>>
<<Address2>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>>
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October 12, 2021

### **Notice of Data Breach**

Dear <<FirstName>> <<LastName>>:

Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation recently experienced a data security incident that may have impacted your personal information including, potentially, your name, mailing address, phone number, email, date of birth, and emergency contact. We take the privacy and security of your information seriously and apologize for any concern or inconvenience this may cause you. This letter contains information about steps you can take to protect your information.

# What happened and what information was involved?

On July 15, 2021, Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation discovered that several computers were operating unusually and portions of their network were inaccessible. Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation immediately took the systems offline, implemented the incident response protocols and began an investigation. That investigation found that your information was stored on portions of the system affected by the incident. The investigation, unfortunately, could not determine whether any of your information had been accessed or removed during the incident, only that it was present. And so, out of an abundance of caution we are providing you with notice of this incident. The information contained in the impacted systems could have included a combination of the following: your name, mailing address, phone number, email, date of birth, and emergency contact.

# What we are doing:

We want to assure you that Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation has taken steps to prevent this kind of event from happening in the future. We have upgraded our workstation security software. And, we continue to evaluate the appropriateness of our security controls as necessary to protect against evolving cyber threats.

# What you can do:

At this time, there is no evidence that your information was misused. That said, it is always a good idea to review your credit report to identify any suspicious activity.

# For more information.

Please review the enclosure included with this letter which describes additional steps you can take to help protect your identity, including recommendations by the Federal Trade Commission regarding identity theft protection and details on how to place a fraud alert or a security freeze on your credit file.

If you have questions, please call 1-833-513-2603, Monday through Friday from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Protecting your information is important to us. We trust that the services we are offering to you demonstrate our continued commitment to your security and satisfaction.

Sincerely,

Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation

#### **U.S. State Notification Requirements**

For residents of *Hawaii*, *Michigan*, *Missouri*, *New Mexico*, *Virginia*, *Vermont*, and *North Carolina*: It is recommended by state law that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity.

For residents of Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Washington, and West Virginia: It is required by state laws to inform you that you may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report by contacting any one or more of the following national consumer reporting agencies:

 Equifax
 Experian
 TransUnion

 P.O. Box 105139
 P.O. Box 2002
 P.O. Box 6790

 Atlanta, GA 30374
 Allen, TX 75013
 Fullerton, CA 92834

 1-800-685-1111
 1-888-397-3742
 1-800-916-8800

 www.equifax.com
 www.transunion.com

You may also obtain a free copy of your credit report online at <a href="https://www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a>, by calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by mailing an Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at <a href="https://www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a>) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

For residents of *Iowa*: State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

For residents of *Colorado*, *Maryland*, *Illinois*, *North Carolina*, and *Rhode Island*: You can obtain information from the Maryland, North Carolina, and Rhode Island Offices of the Attorneys General and the Federal Trade Commission about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft.

**Maryland Attorney General** North Carolina Attorney General **Rhode Island Attorney General Federal Trade Commission** Consumer Protection Div. Consumer Protection Div. Consumer Protection Div. Consumer Response Center 200 St. Paul Place 9001 Mail Service Center 150 South Main Street 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21202 Raleigh, NC 27699-9001 Providence, RI 02903 1-888-743-0023 1-877-566-7226 (401) 274-4400 Washington, DC 20580 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338) www.oag.state.md.us www.ncdoj.com www.riag.ri.gov www.identityTheft.gov

For residents of Massachusetts: It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft.

For residents of *California*: You may also wish to review the information provided by the California Attorney General at <a href="https://oag.ca.gov/idtheft">https://oag.ca.gov/idtheft</a>. For residents of *District of Columbia*: You may obtain information about avoiding identity theft from the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia by visiting <a href="https://oag.dc.gov/consumer-protection">https://oag.dc.gov/consumer-protection</a>, emailing <a href="mailto:consumer-protection@dc.gov">consumer-protection@dc.gov</a>, calling (202) 442-9828, or mailing Office of the Attorney General, Office of Consumer Protection, 400 6th Street, NW Washington, DC 20001.

For residents of *New York*: You may obtain additional information about security breach response and identity theft prevention and protection from the New York State Office of the Attorney General at <a href="https://ag.ny.gov/">https://ag.ny.gov/</a> or by calling 1-800-771-7755; the New York State Police at <a href="https://troopers.ny.gov/">https://troopers.ny.gov/</a> or by calling 1-518-457-6721; and/or the New York Department of State at <a href="https://www.dos.ny.gov">https://www.dos.ny.gov</a> or by calling 1-800-697-1220.

For residents of *Oregon*: You are advised to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Oregon Attorney General at <a href="https://doj.state.or.us">https://doj.state.or.us</a>, by calling (877) 877-9392, or writing to Oregon Department of Justice, 1162 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096.

# For residents of all states:

**Fraud Alerts:** You can place fraud alerts with the three credit bureaus at one of the three major credit bureaus by phone and also via each credit bureau's website. A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. The contact information for all three credit bureaus is below. As of September 21, 2018, fraud alerts will now last one year, instead of 90 days. Fraud alerts will continue to be free and identity theft victims can still get extended fraud alerts for seven years.

Monitoring: You should always remain vigilant and monitor your accounts for suspicious or unusual activity.

Security Freeze: A security freeze is intended to prevent credit, loans and services from being approved in your name without your consent. To place a security freeze on your credit report, each credit reporting agency has a dedicated web page for security freezes and fraud alerts or you can request a freeze by phone or by mail. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request may also require a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue. Effective September 21, 2018, placing a freeze on your credit report is now free for all United States citizens.

Equifax Security Freeze P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348 www.equifax.com Experian Security Freeze P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 http://www.experian.com/freeze **TransUnion (FVAD)**P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19022
www.transunion.com

More information can also be obtained by contacting the Federal Trade Commission listed above.